



Superfund

Schmaedick, Manuel

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2/12/20

From: Buchholz, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:14 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Schmaedick, Manuel
Subject: Holden, MO (Regional Tip and/or complaint: FY20-200356-3711-CV)

Dear (b) (6),

Thank you for your email concerning the Martha C. Rose Chemical Company Superfund Site in Holden, Missouri (Site). The Site came to EPA's attention in 1981, when EPA received an anonymous tip about polychlorinated bi-phenyl (PCB) spills that were occurring at the Martha C. Rose Chemical facility. In 1983, EPA inspections found hazardous waste violations at the facility, and in 1984, EPA filed an administrative complaint alleging violations of federal hazardous waste laws against Martha C. Rose Chemicals, Inc. and its owner, Walter Carolan. This resulted in a 1984 agreement between EPA, Martha C. Rose Chemicals, Inc., and Mr. Carolan requiring Mr. Carolan to bring the facility back into compliance and ordering Mr. Carolan to pay a \$30,000 penalty. In February 1986, however, Mr. Carolan closed Martha C. Rose Chemicals, Inc. and in May of 1986 approximately 200 gallons of PCB liquid leaked from a tanker truck that had been parked at the Site since the facility's closure. EPA responded by removing and disposing of a number of drums containing potential contaminants. In 1986 EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to the Rose Chemicals Steering Committee (RCSC), comprised of several generators who sent PCB wastes to the now-defunct facility, requiring the RCSC to clean up the PCB-contaminated soils at the Site, and in 1986 and 1987 EPA and the RCSC entered into Administrative Orders on Consent to conduct actions to investigate and remove the PCB contamination from the Site. During this removal effort, a total of 21.1 million pounds of PCB-contaminated materials were removed from the Site, and a total of 11.1 million pounds of those materials were incinerated off-site.

While most of the PCB contamination was eliminated during the removal actions, EPA remained concerned that some PCB contamination lingered in the soil. In 1992, EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order ordering the RCSC to remediate the Site, which included excavation and off-site treatment and disposal of PCB-contaminated soil, demolition and off-site disposal of building materials and concrete, 10 years of groundwater monitoring, and implementation of deed restrictions prohibiting installation of water wells at the Site. The remedy, with the exception of groundwater monitoring, was completed in 1996, and in 1998, groundwater monitoring was discontinued because deed restrictions at the Site were in place, and the aquifer that was being monitored was of limited usability.

Under the federal Comprehensive, Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, sometimes referred to as Superfund), EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment from the actual or potential risks posed by hazardous substances. Based on the information currently available to EPA, we believe that the work that has been done at the Site remains protective of human health and the environment. However, in 2020 EPA plans to do some follow-up vapor intrusion assessment work to determine if any risk of human exposure above health-based levels of concern exists at the Site. Manuel Schmaedick, a EPA On Scene Coordinator (OSC) will be conducting the follow-up assessment.

Please note that EPA cannot provide legal counsel to individuals regarding private toxic tort claims. If you are seeking assistance in obtaining monetary damages through a class action or other type of lawsuit, EPA encourages you to consult your own legal counsel. If you have any questions about this site or the additional assessment work that is being planned, please feel free to email me or Manuel Schmaedick, OSC.

Sincerely,
Kenneth S. Buchholz, Chief,
Assessment, Emergency Response and Removal Branch